

Remarks

The Examiner has made a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121 with respect to the following inventions: I – Claims 1 to 6, drawn to an oxidizer package; II – Claims 7 to 22, drawn to a solid propellant; and III – Claims 23 to 28, drawn to a method.

Claims 1 to 4 and 7 to 35 are now before the Examiner. Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 7, 12 to 19 and 23 have been amended. Claims 7 to 28 now ultimately depend from claim 1, which is drawn to an oxidizer package. Claims 7 to 22 are directed to a solid fuel propellant system that comprises at least one oxidizer package as defined in claim 1. Claims 23 to 28 are directed to a method of making a solid fuel propellant system as defined in claim 7. It is believed that the Examiner's Restriction Requirement is now moot in view of the amendments to the claims. In particular, the claims as now presented are all related and therefore should not be subject to a requirement for restriction. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

In order to be fully responsive to the official action, Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group I, with traverse, for the reasons given above.

New claims 29 to 35 have been added. Claims 29 to 31 parallel claims 17 to 19, respectively. Claim 32 corresponds to part of original claim 7. Claim 33 corresponds to part of original claim 1 and claims 34 and 35 correspond to original claims 5 and 6, respectively.

The Examiner has also required the Applicant to elect a single species of oxidizer. The Applicant elects hydrazinium nitroformate. Claims 1-4, 7-20, and 22-35 are readable on the elected species.

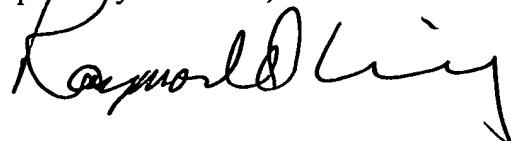
In addition, the Examiner has required the Applicant to elect a single species of polymer binder. The Applicant elects an energetic polymer as the binder. Claims 1-4 and 7-35 are readable on the elected species.

The Examiner also requires an election of a figure of the drawings. Applicant elects Figure 2A. Claims 1 to 4 and 7-34 are readable on the elected species.

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Applicant requests reconsideration by the Examiner and a favorable examination on the merits.

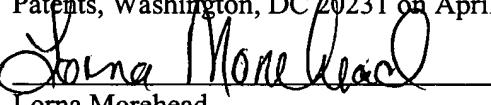
Respectfully submitted,



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on April 15, 2003.  Lorna Morehead	<input type="checkbox"/> facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at , on April 15, 2003. _____ Signature